

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1339

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL ZURICH

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR BGEN GH SZ US

SUBJ: BLAY-MIEZAH RETURNS TO NEWS: CHALLENGES DEBRAH

REF: 75 ACCRA 4364

1. AFTER SEVEN MONTHS OUT OF THE PRESS AND ALMOST AS LONG OUT OF COCKTAIL CIRCUIT CONVERSATION, DR JOHN ACKAH BLAY-MIEZAH HAS RETURNED TO THE FRONT PAGES, FEB 27, WITH OPEN CHALLENGE TO SECRETARY OF SUPREME MILITARY COUNCIL (AND FORMER AMBASSADOR TO U.S.) E.M. DEBRAH.

2. ACCUSING DEBRAH OF OBSTRUCTING HIS EFFORTS TO REPATRIATE HIS QUOTE INHERITANCE UNQUOTE OF 150 MILLION DOLLARS US, BLAY-MIEZAH CHALLENGES DEBRAH TO A WAGER. THE TERMS: BLAY-MIEZAH WILL REPATRIATE NOT LESS THAN 22 MILLION DOLLARS WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE TIME HE IS PERMITTED TO LEAVE GHANA FOR EUROPE. THE STAKES: BLAY-MIEZAH IF HE FAILS WILL SUBMIT HIMSELF TO PROSECUTION FOR DECEIVING PUBLIC OFFICERS; IF HE SUCCEEDS, DEBRAH WILL RESIGN FROM HIS OFFICE. THE CONDITIONS: NO AGENCY OR MINISTRY OF THE GOG IS TO IMPEDE BLAY-MIEZAH

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IN THE PURSUIT OF HIS GOALS AND QUOTE FALSE UNQUOTE INFORMATION

ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN PASSED BY GOG TO SWISS GOVERNMENT MUST
BE WITHDRAWN.

3. THIS IS ALL CONTAINED IN LETTER FROM BLAY-MIEZAH TO DEBRAH
(WITH COPIES TO A NUMBER OF ADDRESSEES INCLUDING THE PRESS).
LETTER, IN ADDITION TO ABOVE, DESCRIBES DEBRAH AS HAVING A
QUOTE DEVIOUS AND WICKED MIND UNQUOTE AND ADDS THAT HE WORKED
QUOTE SURREPTITIOUSLY UNQUOTE TO PREVENT REPATRIATION OF FUNDS
AND HAD ALSO ARRANGED WHILE HE WAS AMBASSADOR TO HAVE BLAY-MIEZAH
JAILED IN THE U.S. (WHERE BLAY-MIEZAH IS STILL UNDER INDICTMENT
FOR ANOTHER OFFENSE) AND CAUSED TWO IMPORTANT BUSINESS CONTRACTS
TO BE BROKEN, AND, SINCE HIS RETURN TO GHANA, CAUSED BLAY-
MIEZAH'S ARREST IN 1974.

4. COMMENT: WE ARE SOMEWHAT SURPRISED THAT PRESS WOULD CARRY
SUCH A STRONG ATTACK ON SMC SECRETARY WITHOUT WAITING FOR SOME
RESPONSE EITHER FROM DEBRAH OR FROM SMC AS AN INSTITUTION.
THE LOCAL BYZANTINES WILL BE PUZZLED WHETHER PUBLICATION
MEANS: (1) FINAL DESTRUCTION OF BLAY-MIEZAH IS AT HAND,
(2) DEBRAH IS ON SKIDS AND THIS IS WAY TO START HIS DEPARTURE
PROCESS, OR (3) NEITHER OF THESE. WE INCLINE TO NUMBER THREE
AND IN THE ABSENCE SO FAR OF ANY OTHER INDICATIONS DOUBT
THAT NUMBER TWO IS MEANING. MEANWHILE WE AWAIT NEXT SALVO.
LINEHAN

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